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Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006)

Note verbale dated 8 June 2007 from the Permanent Mission of Bulgaria to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Bulgaria to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006) and, with reference to paragraph 8 of Security Council resolution 1747 (2007), has the honour to communicate the following:

The Republic of Bulgaria welcomes the unanimous adoption of resolution 1747 (2007) by the Security Council on 24 March 2007 regarding the imposition of stronger sanctions on Iran and has undertaken specific measures for the full and effective implementation of the resolution.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has already been included in the national list of States and organizations, with regard to which the Republic of Bulgaria has applied a prohibition or limitations on the sale and purchase of arms and equipment related thereto, in conformity with the resolutions of the Security Council and the decisions of the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. Iran was included in the above-mentioned list of prohibitions on the basis of the declaration of the European Union on Iran of 29 April 1997.

Shortly after the adoption of resolution 1747 (2007), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria informed the Bulgarian authorities competent for its implementation of the additional restrictive measures imposed on the Islamic Republic of Iran and instructed them on the fulfilment of those measures pending the adoption of an appropriate national legal regulation. Meanwhile, a procedure for the preparation and adoption of such a regulation, by which the provisions of the resolution in the national legal space of the country will be implemented, is under way. The regulation (an Ordinance) will be adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Bulgaria and will fully encompass the restrictive measures imposed by the Security Council on the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Pursuant to paragraph 5 of resolution 1747 (2007), the Ordinance stipulates the prohibition of supplying the Islamic Republic of Iran by Bulgarian nationals or the use of Bulgarian flag vessels or aircraft with any arms or related materiel,

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irrespective of whether or not they originate from the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Pursuant to the goals of resolution 1747 (2007), and in implementation of the Common Position of the Council of the European Union of 23 April 2007, the Ordinance prohibits direct or indirect purchases, sales and transfers to the Islamic Republic of Iran, carried out from Bulgarian territory or by Bulgarian nationals, or the use of Bulgarian flag vessels or aircraft, of any arms or related materiel, including weapons and ammunition, military means of transportation and transportation equipment, paramilitary equipment and spare parts, with the exception of non-military transportation means, which were manufactured or adapted in order to ensure ballistic protection and were made available solely in order to ensure the protection of officials from the European Union and its member States in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The Ordinance prohibits the provision of any technical assistance or training, financial assistance, investment, brokering or other services, and the transfer of financial resources or services related to the above stated items, to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran in order to prevent a destabilizing accumulation of arms.

In an annex to the Ordinance are listed the persons and legal entities that are subject to visa limitations and financial sanctions pursuant to resolutions 1737 (2006) and 1747 (2007).

The Ordinance stipulates a ban on grants, financial assistance and concessional loans to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, except for humanitarian and development purposes.

The Permanent Mission of Bulgaria will promptly communicate to the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006) the adoption of the Ordinance by the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Bulgaria.

The above stated information is in fulfilment of the obligations of our country as a Member State of the United Nations to report to the Committee on the steps undertaken with a view to implementing the resolution.